



April 5, 2012

Ms. Lenita Jacobs-Simmons, Regional Administrator
United States Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration, Region 2
The Curtis Center, Suite 825 East
170 South Independence Mall West
Philadelphia, PA 19106-3315

Dear Lenita:

I am writing in response to Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 21-11, Requirements for 2012 State Workforce Plans, dated March 27, 2012. The Commonwealth of Virginia hereby requests a temporary extension of its current Workforce Investment Act/Wagner-Peyser (WIA/W-P) State Plan and current negotiated performance targets into Program Year 2012. In accordance with the provisions of the TEGL, Virginia requests approval to submit its five-year state plan on September 15, 2012.

We are encouraged by the modifications to state plan requirements as outlined in the TEGL. The requested extension will allow us to engage in an integrated planning process that moves beyond compliance to a more meaningful strategic approach for the Commonwealth's public workforce system. This extension will provide our team with the necessary time to collaborate with a wide variety of workforce stakeholders, to include Local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs), business and labor associations, community-based organizations, adult and secondary education representatives, and our state WIB. The extension will also enable us to closely coordinate our planning efforts with the Governor's newly appointed Director of Education and Workforce.

Please find enclosed a list of currently approved waivers that we request an extension of, through September 15, 2012. I welcome the opportunity to discuss this or other matters with you at your convenience. Thank you and your staff for your continued support and assistance in administering the WIA and related efforts in Virginia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Craig Herndon", is written over a horizontal line.

Dr. M. Craig Herndon
Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development

Request for Extension of Waivers

In accordance with the provisions of Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL), 21-11, Virginia is seeking extension of all existing WIA waivers that were approved by the US Department of Labor thru June 30, 2011. Virginia seeks an extension of these waivers thru September 15, 2012. The list of current waivers is summarized as follows:

Waiver #1 – Waiver of WIA Section 133(b)(4) to increase the allowable transfer amount between adult and dislocated worker funding streams allocated to a local area. (Transfer authority up to 50%)

Waiver #2 – Waiver of WIA Section 134(a) to permit local areas to use a portion of local funds for incumbent worker training. (Up to 20% of dislocated worker funds, only where part of layoff aversion strategy).

Waiver #3 – Waiver of WIA Section 134(a)(1)(A) to permit a portion of the funds reserved for rapid response activities to be used for incumbent worker training and other statewide activities. (Incumbent worker training as part of a layoff aversion strategy and activities to assist local workforce areas in the provision of employment and training services and employer services).

Waiver #4 – Waiver of the prohibition at 20CFR 664.510 on the use of Individual Training Accounts for older and out-of-school youth.

Waiver #5 – Waiver to permit the State to replace the performance measure at WIA Section 136(b) with the common measures.

Waiver #6 – Waiver of the provision at 20CFR Part 663.530 that prescribes a time limit on the period of initial eligibility for training providers.

Waiver # 7 – Waiver of WIA section 123 requirements to competitively select providers of youth program elements which applies to section 129(c)(2)(D),(G), and (I); and 20 CFR 664.410(a)(4), (7), and (8),(9), and (10).

Waiver # 8 – Waiver of WIA Section 134 (d)(4)(G)(i); WIA Implementing Rule 20 CFR Part 663.400; and WIA Implementing Rule 20 CFR Part 663.430. Exemption from Individual Training Accounts - Class Sized Training